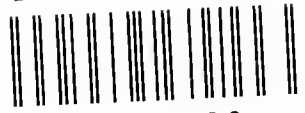


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CLAIMS OF STATES OF MAINE AND MASSACHUSETTS.

[To accompany Bill H. R. No. 548.]

MAY 4, 1858.

Mr. RITCHIE, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, made the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Foreign Affairs, to whom was referred certain claims of the States of Maine and Massachusetts, arising under a treaty "To settle and define the boundaries between the Territories of the United States and the possessions of her Britannic Majesty in North America," &c., ratified August 22, 1842, dated August 9, 1842, respectfully report:

That by article fourth of said treaty, (8 Statutes at Large, 574,) the United States agreed to ratify certain titles, and confirm and quiet certain claims to lands. This agreement could only be carried into effect by the agency of Maine and Massachusetts, the States owning or claiming the lands which had been the subject of dispute with Great Britain. Part of the money now claimed by the said States is for expenses incurred in the fulfilment of the said 4th article of said treaty, and as the obligation in the article was incumbent on the United States, the committee are of opinion that the United States are bound to repay to the said States the amount expended by them as aforesaid.

By the fifth article of said treaty, the United States agreed to pay to Maine and Massachusetts all claims for expenses incurred by them theretofore in protecting the disputed territory, &c.—(See Statutes at Large, 8 vol., page 575.) The remaining claims of those now presented by Maine and Massachusetts arise under this fifth article, and in the opinion of the committee they ought to be paid by the United States.

Appropriations to the said States, for claims similar to those now presented and arising under the said treaty, have heretofore been made by Congress, and the validity of the claims has been uniformly recognized by the United States.

The following acts of Congress are referred to in which appropriations similar to those now asked for have been made:

Act of 3d March, 1843, section 5, (Statutes at Large, 5 vol., p. 623.)
Act of 17th June, 1844, (5 Statutes at Large, 695.) Act of 3d March, 1851, (9 Statutes at Large, p. 626.)

This act allows interest to Maine on money borrowed and expended

CLAIMS OF MAINE AND MASSACHUSETTS.

oy that State in protecting the frontier during the years 1839, 1840, and 1841.

Act of 31st August, 1852, (10 Statutes at Large.) This act directs the payment of balances due to Maine and Massachusetts, and also directs the payment of interest.

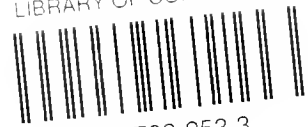
The committee therefore recommend the adoption of the accompanying bill.

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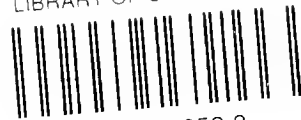
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